It is the apparent insignificance, the seeming aimlessness of human life that constitutes the tragedy of tragedies. And it is for this ancient enigma, this persistent puzzle—namely, that good appears to come to grief, while evil seems to triumph —that wisdom has to find a solution. What is the end of life? Happiness—is that the answer? What is the end of life? Possessions and pelf and power—is that the answer ? What is th^ end of life ? Knowledge, insight, penetration, faith, trust, wisdom, resolution, labour—is that the answer? Which of these is the right answer ? As the *old* man bowed down with the weight of years, when asked why he was engaged in that absurd task of planting a little sapling at his age, replied that he followed those who had gone before him and had planted trees the fruits of which he reaped. So, wise men and true do not always plant for themselves. Our realisation, our redemption, lies not in what we may reap ourselves but what others may reap from our labours. If we ask ourselves the question, namely, which of the two will be honourable— to die a creditor or debtor, every manly soul amongst us will promptly answer, [f] of course a creditor.' Then the supreme lesson for us is so to live as to gift, with

some thing sound
and wholesome, those who come after us,
instead of our
carrying away more than our d-ie portion.
The oldest of
our Scriptures, the *Rig Veda,* inculcates
the same truth\ of
self-sacrifice as exempiyied by the *Parama Purusha* Himself
in the very act of cosmic creation. The
cradle of the universe
is rocked by self-sacrifice. This is the
significance also of the
cross. In Bunyan's *Pilgrims Progress,* there
is a character
named *Faithful.* He is executed on a cross.
Symbolically,
Bunyan places, at the foot of that cross, a
cradle with a new
born babe in it whose name is, not *Faithful*
but *Hopeful.*
On the cross the Faithful give up the life ;
at its foot the Hope-
ful come into life. The cross of the lofty
souled is the fountain
spring, the vital strength, of the humble
spirited in that it
vindicates, by means of an impressive
example, the justice